



TATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

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No. 81/153

November 13, 1981

TO COUNTY ASSESSORS:

ASSEMBLY BILL 1963 RELATING TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION
TO PUBLIC BY ASSESSOR IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Assembly Bill 1963, as Chapter 523 of the Statutes of 1981, adds Sections 408.2 and 409 to the Revenue and Taxation Code. Section 408.2 applies to Los Angeles County only and makes public all records and information that the assessor maintains as required by law, excepting homeowners' exemption claims, property statements, change-in-ownership statements, and certain information exempt under the Public Records Act. Section 409 authorizes the county to charge a fee sufficient to cover the assessor's actual costs of developing and providing such information. Both sections are automatically repealed January 1, 1985, unless extended by a later enacted statute.

You will notice that subdivisions (b), (c), and (d) of Section 408.2 are identical to subdivisions (b), (c), and (d) of existing Section 408. Section 408.2 serves as an interim provision for Los Angeles County alone for three years, at which time, assuming it has not been extended, it will give way to the provisions of existing Section 408.

The Los Angeles County Assessor has received numerous requests for information from the department's data base. The law regulating fees charged for providing such information was preventing the assessor of Los Angeles County from recovering the actual costs incurred in providing this public service.

Since no other county has a population which exceeds 4,000,000, this bill has no effect on disclosure of information and assessors' records except in Los Angeles County. Sections 408, 451, and 481 continue to regulate disclosure of the contents of assessors' records in all other counties.

Enclosed is a copy of this legislation; if you have any questions about it, please call Pete Gaffney at (916) 445-4982.

Sincerely,

Verne Walton, Chief
Assessment Standards Division

VW:dcw
Enclosure
AL-01-1124A